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Date: June 24, 2008
To: Examiner Erin D. Chiem
CC: Supervisory Examiner Frank G. Font
Company: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Fax No: 571-273-8300
From: Mindy N. Rittner
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Re: Application Serial No. 10/708,536
Attorney Docket No. 10095/35
Confirmation No. 2535

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MESSAGE – URGENT:

Dear Examiner Chiem:

This fax is a follow-up to my voicemail messages of May 20, June 11, and June 16, in which I inquired about the status of application serial no. 10/708,536. I also contacted Examiner Frank Font, your supervisor, on June 19 and briefly discussed the case with him. Examiner Font said he would ask you to contact me promptly. I have not yet received a return call, and thus I am sending this fax to respectfully request your prompt attention to this urgent matter.

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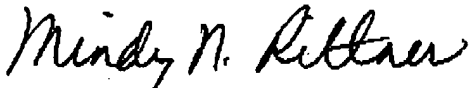
To refresh your memory on this case:

- Applicants received a Final Office Action dated December 31, 2007.
- On January 14, 2008, Examiner Chiem and the undersigned had a telephone discussion about pending claim 61 and the fact that it has not been examined. As stated in the Interview Summary filed January 24, 2008, Examiner Chiem agreed that the finality of the December 31st Office Action is premature and said that a nonfinal Office Action would be issued to replace the premature final Office Action. Examiner Chiem and the undersigned also discussed the patentability of unexamined claim 61. Examiner Chiem asserted that the claim, which recites input and output sidewalls having different radii of curvature, may be patentable.
- On Monday, February 11, Examiner Chiem and the undersigned had a follow-up telephone discussion in which the Examiner stated once again that she would issue a nonfinal Office Action to replace the improper final Office Action after doing an additional search.

Applicants have not yet received the nonfinal Office Action. The 6-month deadline for response to the premature final Office action is June 30, 2008. Can you please advise as to when Applicants can expect to receive the nonfinal Office Action? If the replacement Office Action is not issued before June 30, can you please advise on how Applicants should proceed in the present case?

Your prompt attention to this matter is much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



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Agent for Applicants